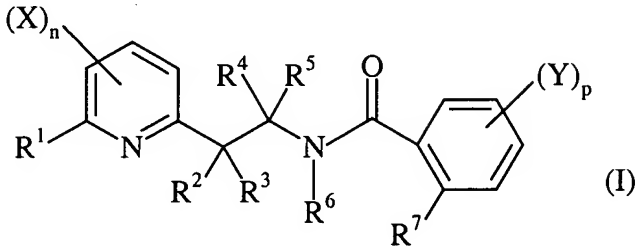
LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Original)

1. (Original) A compound of general formula (I):



(I)

in which :

- n is 1, 2 or 3;

- X is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl group, a C_1-C_8-alkyl, a C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_2-C_8-alkynyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_8-alkenyloxy, a C_2-C_8-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_8-alkynyloxy, a C_3-C_8-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, a C_3-C_8-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylcarbamoyl, a (N-C_1-C_8-alkyl)oxycarbamoyl, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbamoyl, a (N-C_1-C_8-alkyl)-C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonylamino, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphenyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphinyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C_1-C_6-alkoxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl,

a (C_1-C_6-alkenyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (C_1-C_6-alkynyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl or a phenylamino;

- R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl group, a C_1-C_8-alkyl, a C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_2-C_8-alkynyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_8-alkenyloxy, a C_2-C_8-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_8-alkynyloxy, a C_3-C_8-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, a C_3-C_8-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylcarbamoyl, a N-C_1-C_8-alkyloxycarbamoyl, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbamoyl, a N-C_1-C_8-alkyl-C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonylamino, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphenyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphinyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C_1-C_6-alkoxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (C_1-C_6-alkenyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (C_1-C_6-alkynyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a phenylamino;

with the proviso that X and R^1 are not both a hydrogen atom;

- R^2 and R^3 are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_6-alkenyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfenyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfinyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonyloxy or a C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonylamino;

or R^2 and R^3 may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl or a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

or R^4 and R^5 may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a formyl group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy, a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl, a C_3-C_6-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_6-alkenyl, a C_2-C_6-alkynyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-cyanoalkyl, a C_1-C_6-aminoalkyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylamino-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a di-C_1-C_6-alkylamino-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-halogenalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_6-alkyloxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-benzyloxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy-C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfonyl or a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

- p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

- Y is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C_1-C_8-alkyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_2-C_8-alkynyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy-C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphenyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphinyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfonamide; and

- R^7 is a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C_1-C_8-alkyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_2-C_8-alkynyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy-C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphenyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphinyl, a C_1-C_8-

halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfonamide;

as well as its salts, N-oxydes, metallic and metalloidic complexes.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, characterised in that R^1 is a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom.

3. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterised in that n is 1 or 2.

4. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterised in that X is a halogen atom or a C_1-C_8-alkyl.

5. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterised in that the 2-pyridyl is substituted by X in 3- and/or in 5-position.

6. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterised in that R^7 is a halogen atom, a C_1-C_8-alkyl or a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms.

7. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterised in that p is 1 or 2.

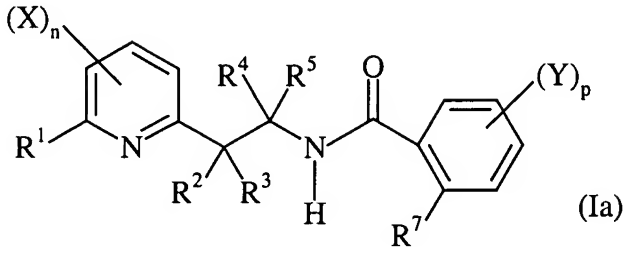
8. (Original) A compound according to claim 7, characterised in that p is 1.

9. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, characterised in that Y is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a C_1-C_8-alkyl.

10. (Original) A compound according to claim 9, characterised in that Y is a hydrogen atom.

11. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of the claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, characterised in that the phenyl is substituted by Y preferentially first in para position.

12. (Currently amended) A process (A) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



(Ia)

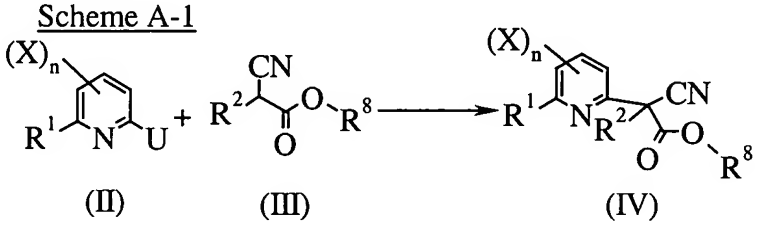
wherein : - R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1~~claim 1~~;

- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme A-1 :

Scheme A-1



(II) (III) (IV)

in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, X and n are as defined in claim 1~~claim 1;

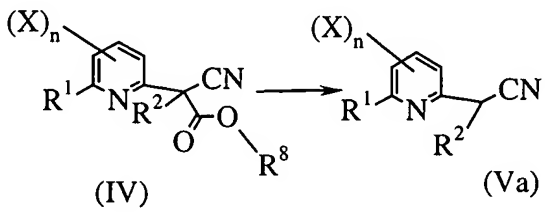
- R^8 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a cyanoacetate derivative of general formula (III) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II), to provide a 2-(pyridyl)cyanoacetate derivative of general formula (IV), in the presence of a base, at a temperature of from 0°C to 200°C;

- a second step according to reaction scheme A-2 :

Scheme A-2



(IV) (Va)

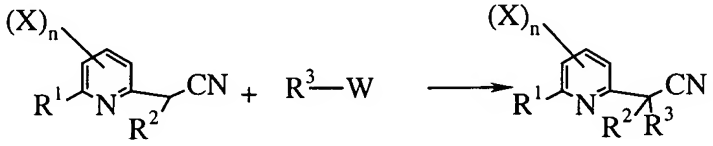
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, X, n are as defined in claim 1~~claim 1;

- R^3 is a hydrogen atom;
- R^8 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising a basic hydrolysis, an acidic hydrolysis or a displacement by an halide of a compound of general formula (IV) in the same or a different pot to provide, upon heating at a temperature of from 40°C to reflux, a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of general formula (Va);

- a third step according to reaction scheme A-3 :

Scheme A-3



(Va) (XVII) (Vb)

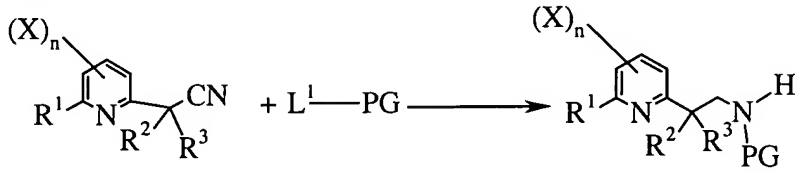
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, X, n are as defined in claim 1~~claim 1;

- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;
- W is a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate, a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate or a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate,

comprising the alkylation of a compound of general formula (Va) by a reagent of general formula (XVII) to provide a compound of general formula (Vb);

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme A-4 :

Scheme A-4



(Va) or (Vb) (VI) (VII)

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, X, n are as defined in claim 1~~claim 1;

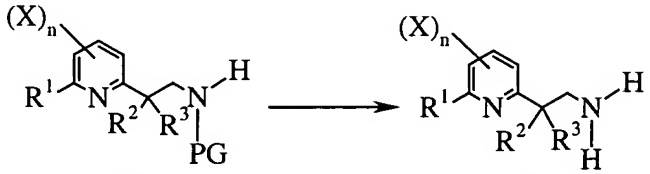
- R^3 is a hydrogen atom or a C_1-C_6 alkyl;
- L^1 is a leaving group chosen as being a -OR^8 group or a -$OCOR^8$ group, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

- PG represents a protecting group which may be a -$COOR^8$ group or -COR^8 group, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising the reduction, by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor, of a compound of general formula (Va) or (Vb), in the presence of a catalyst and in the presence of a compound of general formula (VI) to produce a compound of general formula (VII), at a temperature of from 0°C to 150°C and under a pressure of from 1 bar and 100 bar;

- a fifth step according to reaction scheme A-5 :

Scheme A-5



(VII) (VIIIa)

in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, X, n are as defined claim 1claim 1;~~

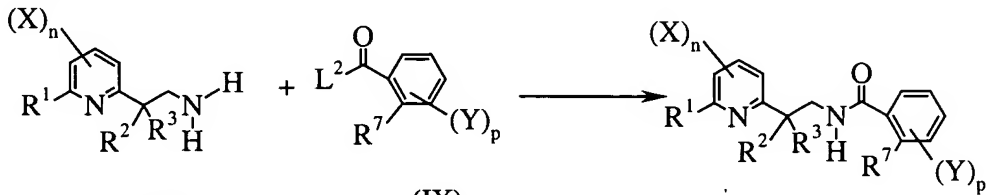
- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;

- PG represents a protecting group which may be a -$COOR^8$ group or -COR^8 group, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising a deprotection reaction, in an acidic or in a basic medium, of a compound of general formula (VII) to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt;

- a sixth step according to reaction scheme A-6 :

Scheme A-6



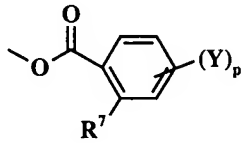
(VIIIa) (IX) (Ia)

in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1claim 1;~~

- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;

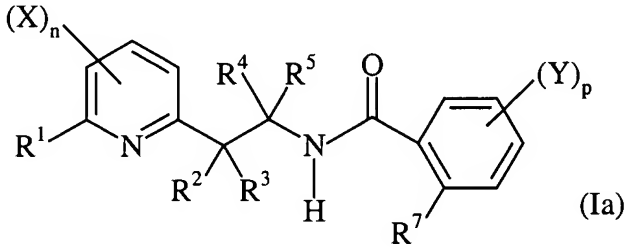
- L^2 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, an OR^8 group, an $OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl,

a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula



comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

13. (Currently amended) A process (B) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



(Ia)

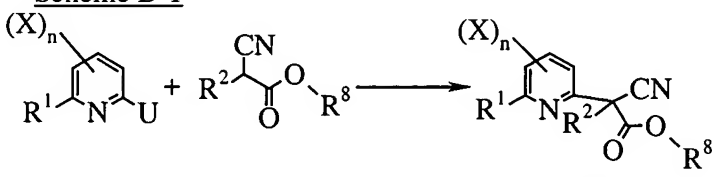
wherein : - R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1~~claim 1~~;

- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme B-1 :

Scheme B-1



(II) (III) (IV)

in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

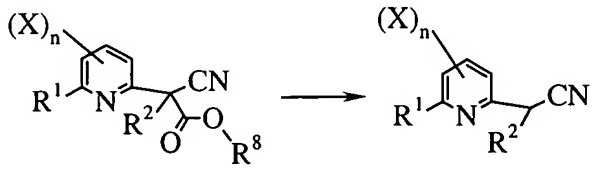
- R^8 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a cyanoacetate derivative of general formula (III) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a 2-pyridylcyanoacetate derivative of general formula (IV);

- a second step according to reaction scheme B-2 :

Scheme B-2



(IV) (Va)

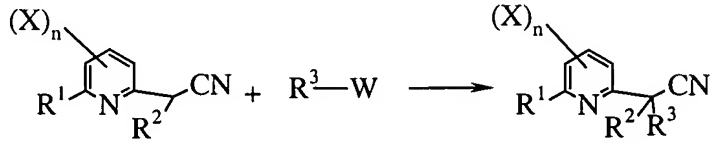
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^8 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising a basic hydrolysis, an acidic hydrolysis or a displacement by an halide of a compound of general formula (IV) in the same or a different pot to provide, upon heating at a temperature of from 40°C to reflux, a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of general formula (Va);

- a third step according to reaction schemeB-3 :

Scheme B-3



(Va) (XVII) (Vb)

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, X, n are as defined in claim 1;~~

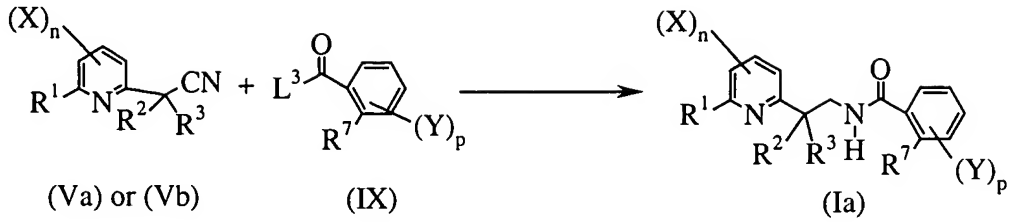
- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;

- W is a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate, a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate or a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate,

comprising the alkylation of a compound of general formula (Va) by a reagent of general formula (XVII) to provide a compound of general formula (Vb);

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme B-4 :

Scheme B-4

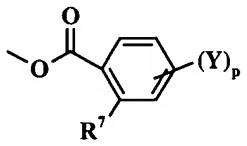


(Va) or (Vb) (IX) (Ia)

in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;

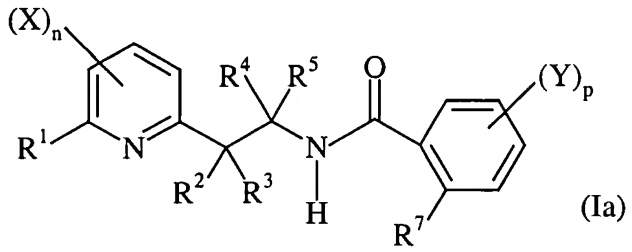
- L^3 is a leaving group chosen as being -$OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; -OCHO, -$SCSN(Me)_2$ or a group of formula



;

comprising the reduction by hydrogenation or by an hydride of a compound of general formula (Va) or a compound of general formula (Vb) in the presence of a catalyst and in the presence of a compound of general formula (IX) to produce a compound of general formula (Ia), at a temperature of from 0°C to 150°C and under a pressure of from 1 bar and 100 bar.

14. (Currently amended) A process (C) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



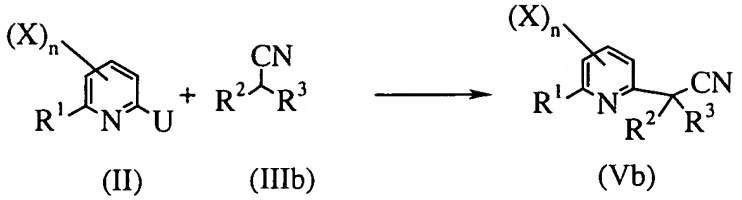
(Ia)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme C-1 :

Scheme C-1



(II) (IIIb) (Vb)

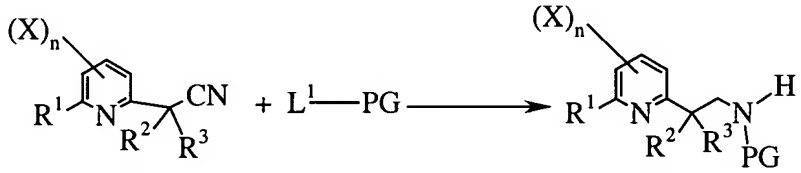
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a compound of general formula (IIIb) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of general formula (Vb), in the presence of a base and at a at temperature of from -100°C to 200°C;

- a second step according to reaction scheme C-2 :

Scheme C-2



(Vb) (VI) (VII)

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

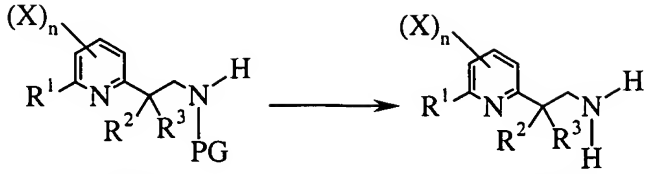
- L^1 is a leaving group chosen as being a -OR^8 group or a -$OCOR^8$ group, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

- PG represents a protecting group which may be a -$COOR^8$ group or -COR^8 group, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising the reduction, by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor, of a compound of general formula (Va) or (Vb), in the presence of a compound of general formula (VI) to produce a compound of general formula (VII) ;

- a third step according to reaction scheme C-3 :

Scheme C-3



(VII) (VIIIa)

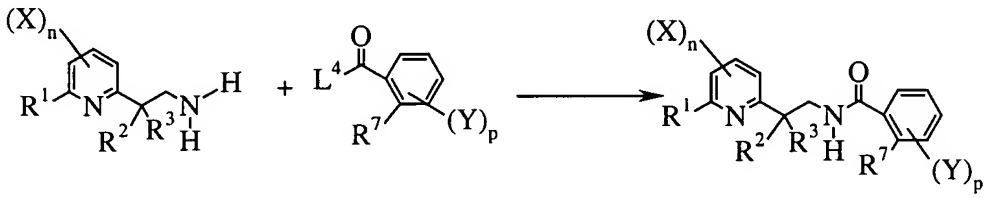
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- PG represents a protecting group which may be a $-COOR^8$ group or $-COR^8$ group, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl;

comprising a deprotection reaction, in an acidic or in a basic medium, of a compound of general formula (VII) to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt;

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme C-4 :

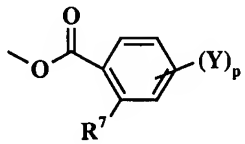
Scheme C-4



(VIIIa) (IX) (Ia)

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

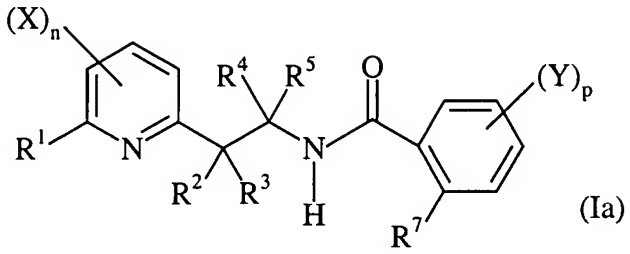
- L^4 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, -OCHO, $-SCSN(Me)_2$, an OR^8 group, an $OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula



;

comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIa) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

15. (Currently amended) A process (D) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



(Ia)

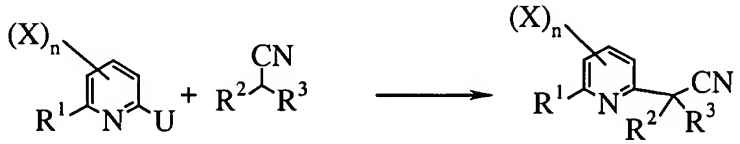
wherein : - R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;

- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme D-1 :

Scheme D-1



(II) (IIIb) (Vb)

in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^3 is a hdyrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-halogenalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_6- alkenyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfenyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfinyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonyloxy or a C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonylamino;

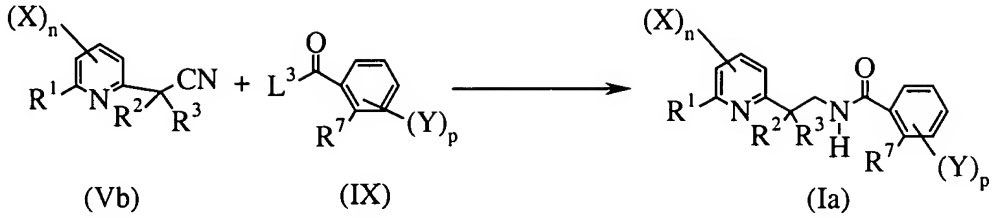
- or R^2 and R^3 may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a compound of general formula (IIIb) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a 2-pyridylacetonitrile derivative of general formula (Vb), in the presence of a base and at a at temperature of from -100°C to 200°C;

- a second step according to reaction scheme D-2 :

Scheme D-2

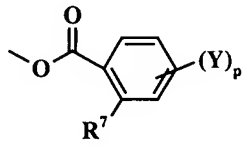


(Vb) (IX) (Ia)

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl;

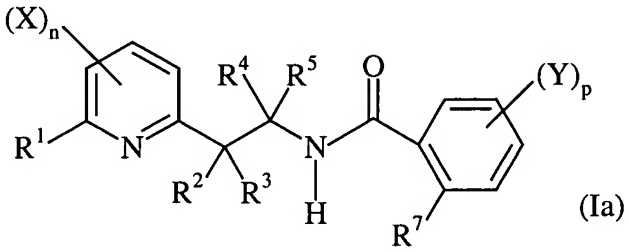
- L^3 is a leaving group chosen as being -$OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; -OCHO, -$SCSN(Me)_2$ or a group of formula



;

comprising the reduction by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor a compound of general formula (Va) or a compound of general formula (Vb) in the presence of a compound of general formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

16. (Currently amended) A process (E) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



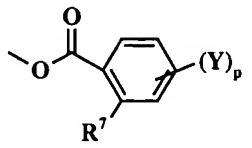
(Ia)

wherein : - R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

- R^5 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl; - L^4 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, -OCHO, -$SCSN(Me)_2$, an OR^8 group,

an $OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula

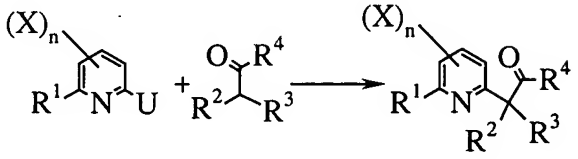


;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme E-1 :

Scheme E-1



(II) (X) (XI)

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

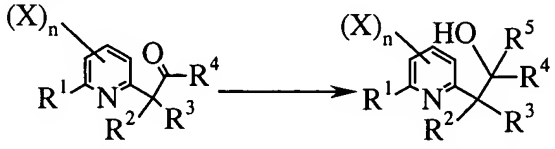
- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a compound of general formula (X) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a compound of general formula (XI);

- a second step according to reaction scheme E-2 :

Scheme E-2



(XI) (XIII)

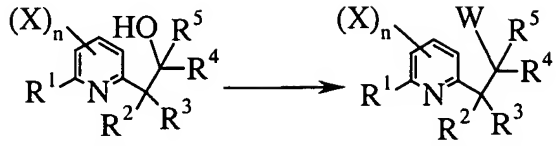
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

comprising the conversion of a compound of general formula (XI) into a compound of general formula (XIII) by addition of a compound of general formula R^5-M, in which R^5 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl and M is a metal specie;

- a third step according to reaction scheme E-3 :

Scheme E-3



(XIII) (XIV)

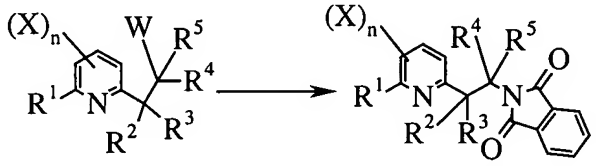
in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- R^5 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- W is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate, a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate or a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate;

comprising the activation of a compound of general formula (XIII) by converting it intoa compound of general formula (XIV);

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme E-4 :

Scheme E-4



(XIV) (XVa)

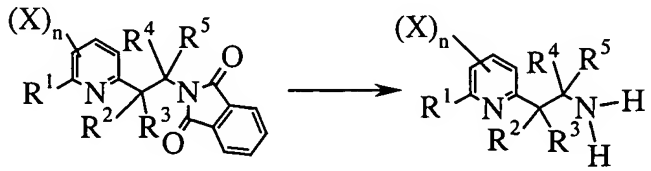
in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- R^5 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- W is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate, a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate or a 4-methyl-phenylsulfonate;

comprising the substitution of a compound of general formula (XIV) by a phtalimide derivative or one of its salt to provide a compound of general formula (XVa);

- a fifth step according to reaction scheme E-5 :

Scheme E-5



(XVa) (VIIIc)

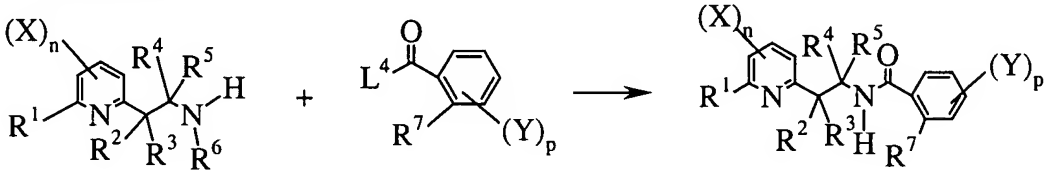
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- R^5 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

comprising the de-protection of a compound of general formula (XVa) by reacting it with hydrazine hydrate or a hydrazine salt to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIc) or one of its salt;

- a sixth step according to reaction scheme E-6 :

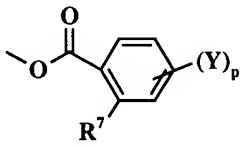
Scheme E-6



(VIIIc) (IX) (Ia)

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

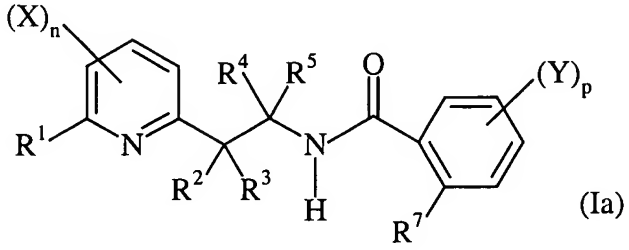
- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- R^5 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl; - L^4 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, -OCHO, $-SCSN(Me)_2$, an OR^8 group, an $OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula



;

comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIb) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

17. (Currently amended) A process (F) for the preparation of compound of general formula (Ia)



(Ia)

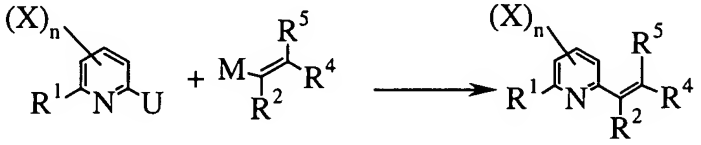
wherein : - R^1, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;

- R^2, R^4 and R^5 are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme F-1 :

Scheme F-1



(II) (XVI) (XVII)

in which : ~~- R^1, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

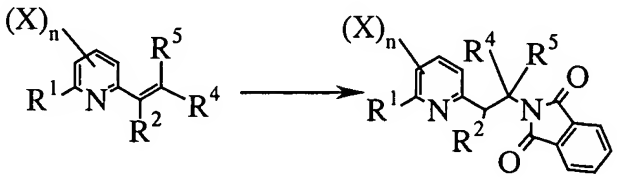
- R^2, R^4 and R^5 are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

- M is a metal or a metalloid specie;

comprising a coupling reaction of a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) with a vinylic specie of general formula (XVI), at a temperature of from 0°C to 200°C, to provide a compound of general formula (XVII);

- a second step according to reaction scheme F-2 :

Scheme F-2



(XVII) (XVb)

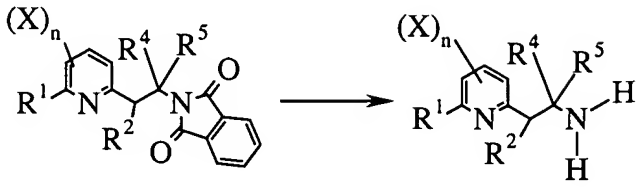
in which : ~~- R^1, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^2, R^4 and R^5 are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

comprising the addition of a phtalimide or one of its salt on a compound of general formula (XVII) to provide a compound of general formula (XVb);

- a third step according to reaction scheme F-3 :

Scheme F-3



(XVb) (VIIId)

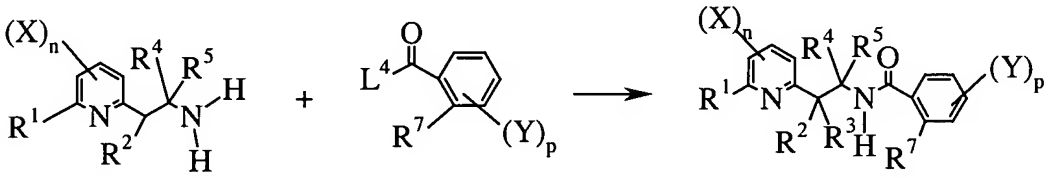
in which : ~~- R^1, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^2, R^4 and R^5 are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

comprising the de-protection of a compound of general formula (XVb) with hydrazine hydrate or an hydrazine salt, to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIId) or one of its salts;

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme F-4 :

Scheme F-4

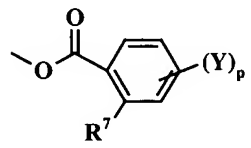


(VIIId) (IX) (Ia)

in which : ~~- R^1, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^2, R^4 and R^5 are independently from each other chosen as being a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;

- L^4 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, -OCHO, -SCSN(Me)$_2$, an OR^8 group, an $OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula

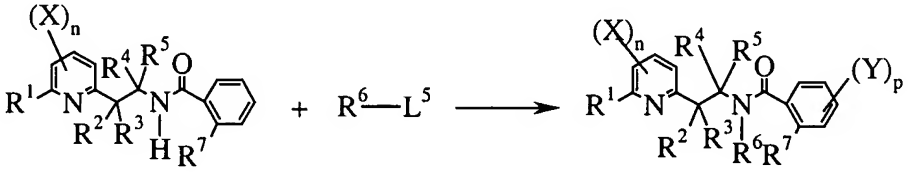


;

comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIb) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (Ia).

18. (Currently amended) A process according to ~~any of the claims 12 to 17~~ claim 12 which further comprises a step according to reaction scheme G :

Scheme G



(Ia) (XVI) (Ib)

in which : ~~- R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- n is 1, 2 or 3;

- X is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl group, a C_1-C_8-alkyl, a C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_2-C_8-alkynyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_8-alkenyloxy, a C_2-C_8-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_8-alkynyloxy, a C_3-C_8-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, a C_3-C_8-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylcarbamoyl, a (N-C_1-C_8-alkyl)oxycarbamoyl, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbamoyl, a (N-C_1-C_8-alkyl)-C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonylamino, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphenyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphinyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C_1-C_6-alkoxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (C_1-C_6-alkenyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (C_1-C_6-alkynyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl or a phenylamino;

- R^1 is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a carbamoyl group, a N-hydroxycarbamoyl group, a carbamate group, a (hydroxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl group, a C_1-C_8-alkyl, a C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_2-C_8-alkynyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_8-alkenyloxy, a C_2-C_8-halogenoalkenyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_8-alkynyloxy, a C_3-C_8-halogenoalkynyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, a C_3-C_8-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbamoyl, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylcarbamoyl, a N-C_1-C_8-alkyloxycarbamoyl, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbamoyl, a N-C_1-C_8-alkyl-C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbamoyl, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonylamino, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonylamino having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylaminocarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-alkyloxycarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphenyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphinyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a (C_1-C_6-alkoxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (C_1-C_6-alkenyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (C_1-C_6-alkynyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a (benzyloxyimino)-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a benzyloxy, a benzylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a benzylamino, a phenoxy, a phenylsulfanyl optionally substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a phenylamino;

with the proviso that X and R^1 are not both a hydrogen atom;

- R^2 and R^3 are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_6-alkenyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfenyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfinyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonyloxy or a C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonylamino;

or R^2 and R^3 may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- R^4 and R^5 are the same or different and are a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a cyano group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl or a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

or R^4 and R^5 may together form a 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle;

- R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a formyl group, a hydroxy group, a C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy, a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_3-C_6-cycloalkyl, a C_3-C_6-halogenocycloalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_6-alkenyl, a C_2-C_6-alkynyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-cyanoalkyl, a C_1-C_6-aminoalkyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylamino-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a di-C_1-C_6-alkylamino-C_1-C_6-alkyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-halogenalkylcarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_6-alkyloxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-benzyloxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-alkoxy-C_1-C_6-alkylcarbonyl, a C_1-C_6-alkylsulfonyl or a C_1-C_6-halogenoalkylsulfonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

- p is 1, 2, 3 or 4;

- Y is the same or different and is a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, a hydroxy group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C_1-C_8-alkyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_2-C_8-alkynyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy-C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphenyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphinyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfonamide; and

- R^7 is a halogen atom, a nitro group, a cyano group, an amino group, a sulfanyl group, a pentafluoro-λ^6-sulfanyl group, a formyl group, a formyloxy group, a formylamino group, a carboxy group, a C_1-C_8-alkyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_2-C_8-alkynyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a di-C_1-C_8-alkylamino, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkoxy-C_2-C_8-alkenyl, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfanyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulfanyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkoxycarbonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkoxycarbonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylcarbonyloxy, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylcarbonyloxy having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphenyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphenyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphinyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphinyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms, a C_1-C_8-alkylsulphonyl, a C_1-C_8-halogenoalkylsulphonyl having 1 to 5 halogen atoms or a C_1-C_8-alkylsulfonamide;

as well as its salts, N-oxydes, metallic and metalloidic complexes;

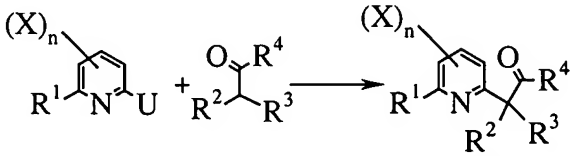
- L^5 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a 4-methyl phenylsulfonyloxy, a methylsulfonyloxy;

comprising the reaction of a compound of general formula (Ia) with a compound of general formula (XVI) to provide a compound of general formula (Ib).

19. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of a fungicidal compound ~~of general formula (I) as defined in claim 1,~~ which comprises

- a first step according to reaction scheme H-1 :

Scheme H-1



(II) (X) (XI)

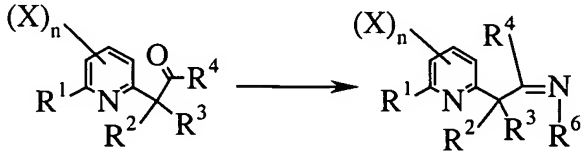
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1~~ in the foregoing scheme and all of the schemes below, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- U is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkylsulfonate or a C_1-C_6 haloalkylsulfonate;

comprising the arylation of a compound of general formula (X) by a pyridine derivative of general formula (II) to provide a compound of general formula (XI), in the presence of a base, at a temperature of from 0°C to 200°C;

- a second step according to reaction scheme H-2 :

Scheme H-2



(XI) (XII)

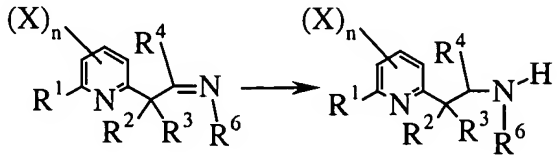
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a C_1-C_6 alkoxy or a C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl;

comprising the reaction of a compound of general formula (XI) with an amine of formula R^6-NH2 to provide an imine derivative of general formula (XII);

- a third step according to scheme H-3 :

Scheme H-3



(XII) (VIIIb)

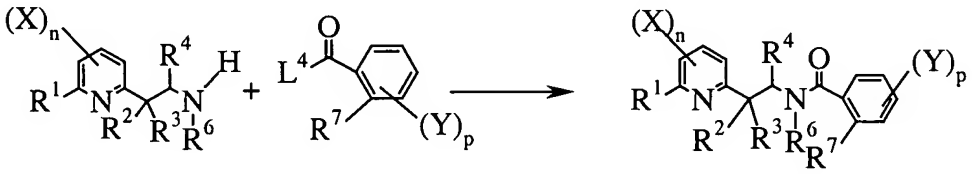
in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, X and n are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a C_1-C_6 alkoxy or a C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl;

comprising the reduction of an imine derivative of general formula (XII) by hydrogenation or by an hydride donor, in the same or a different pot to provide an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIb) or one of its salt;

- a fourth step according to reaction scheme H-4 :

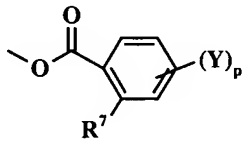
Scheme H-4



(VIIIb) (IX) (I)

in which : ~~R^1, R^2, R^3, R^7, X, Y, n and p are as defined in claim 1;~~

- R^4 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl or a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl;
- R^6 is a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a C_1-C_6 alkoxy or a C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl;
- L^4 is a leaving group chosen as being a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, -OCHO, -SCSN(Me)$_2$, an OR^8 group, an $OCOR^8$, R^8 being a C_1-C_6 alkyl, a C_1-C_6 haloalkyl, a benzyl, 4-methoxybenzyl or pentafluorophenyl; or a group of formula



;

comprising a coupling reaction of an amine derivative of general formula (VIIIb) or one of its salt, with a carboxylic acid derivative of formula (IX) to provide a compound of general formula (I).

20. (Original) Fungicidal composition comprising an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 and an agriculturally acceptable support.

21. (Original) Method for preventively or curatively combating the phytopathogenic fungi of crops, characterised in that an effective and non-phytotoxic amount of a composition according to claim 20 is applied to the plant seeds or to the plant leaves and/or to the fruits of the plants or to the soil in which the plants are growing or in which it is desired to grow them.